Design of Pelton turbines



When to use a Pelton turbine



Energy conversion in a Pelton turbine



Main dimensions for the Pelton runner







The ideal Pelton runner

Absolute velocity from nozzle:

$$c_1 = \sqrt{2 \cdot g \cdot H_n}$$
 $\underline{c}_1 = \frac{c_1}{\sqrt{2 \cdot g \cdot H_n}} = 1$

Circumferential speed:

$$u_1 = \frac{c_{1u}}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \sqrt{2 \cdot g \cdot H_n}$$
 $\underline{u}_1 = 0.5$

Euler`s turbine equation:

$$\eta_{h} = 2(\underline{u}_{1} \cdot \underline{c}_{1u} - \underline{u}_{2} \cdot \underline{c}_{2u})$$
$$\underline{c}_{1u} = 1 \quad \underline{c}_{u2} = 0$$

 $\eta_h = 2 \cdot (\underline{u}_1 \cdot \underline{c}_{1u} - \underline{u}_2 \cdot \underline{c}_{2u}) = 2 \cdot (0, 5 \cdot 1.0 - 0, 5 \cdot 0) = 1$

The real Pelton runner

• For a real Pelton runner there will always be loss We will therefore set the hydraulic efficiency to:

$$\eta_{\rm h}=0.96$$

The absolute velocity from the nozzle will be:

$$0.99 \le \underline{c}_{1u} < 0.995$$

 C_{1u} can be set to 1,0 when dimensioning the turbine. This gives us:

$$\eta_{h} = 2(\underline{u}_{1} \cdot \underline{c}_{1u} - \underline{u}_{2} \cdot \underline{c}_{2u})$$

$$\bigcup$$

$$\underline{u}_{1} = \frac{\eta_{n}}{2 \cdot \underline{c}_{1u}} = \frac{0,96}{2 \cdot 1,0} = 0,48$$

From continuity equation:

$$Q = z \cdot \frac{\pi \cdot d_s^2}{4} \cdot c_{1u}$$
$$\bigcup$$
$$d_s = \sqrt{\frac{4 \cdot Q}{z \cdot \pi \cdot c_{1u}}}$$

Where:

Ζ	=	number of nozzles
Q	=	flow rate
C_{1u}	=	$\sqrt{2 \cdot g \cdot H_n}$



The size of the bucket and number of nozzles



Rules of thumb:

B	=	3,1	$\cdot d_s$
B	=	3,2	$\cdot d_s$
B	=	3,3	$\cdot d_s$
B	>	3,3	$\cdot d_s$

nozzle
 nozzles
 nozzles
 nozzles





Number of buckets



empirical

Number of buckets



Runner diameter

Rules of thumb:

$\mathbf{D} = 10 \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{s}}$	$H_n \le 500 \text{ m}$
$D = 15 \cdot d_s$	$H_n = 1300 \text{ m}$

 $D < 9,5 \cdot d_s$ must be avoided because water will be lost

 $D > 15 \cdot d_s$ is for very high head Pelton

В



Speed number $\Omega = \omega \sqrt{Q \cdot z}$





For the diameter: $D = 10 \cdot d_s$ and one nozzle: z = 1

$$\underline{\Omega} = \frac{\mathrm{d}_{\mathrm{s}}}{\mathrm{D}} \sqrt{\frac{\pi \cdot \mathrm{z}}{4}} = \frac{1}{10} \sqrt{\frac{\pi \cdot \mathrm{l}}{4}} = 0,09$$

The maximum speed number for a Pelton turbine with one nozzle is $\Omega = 0.09$

For the diameter: $D = 10 \cdot d_s$ and six nozzle: z = 6

$$\underline{\Omega} = \frac{\mathrm{d}_{\mathrm{s}}}{\mathrm{D}} \sqrt{\frac{\pi \cdot z}{4}} = \frac{1}{10} \sqrt{\frac{\pi \cdot 6}{4}} = 0,22$$

The maximum speed number for a Pelton turbine today is $\Omega = 0,22$

Dimensioning of a Pelton turbine

1. The flow rate and head are given *H = 1130 m $*Q = 28,5 \text{ m}^{3}/\text{s}$ *P = 288 MW

- 2. Choose reduced values $\underline{c}_{1u} = 1 \implies c_{1u} = 149 \text{ m/s}$ $\underline{u}_1 = 0,48 \implies u_1 = 71 \text{ m/s}$
- 3. Choose the number of nozzles z = 5
- 4. Calculate d_s from continuity for one nozzle







6. Find the diameter by interpolation

$$\frac{D}{d_{s}} = 0,005 \cdot H_{n} + 8 = 13,65$$

$$\bigcup$$

$$D = 13,65 \cdot d_{s} = 3,0 \text{ m}$$





7. Calculate the speed:

8. Choose the number of poles on the generator:

The speed of the runner is given by the generator and the net frequency:

$$n = \frac{3000}{Z_p} \quad [rpm]$$

where Z_p =number of poles on the generator

The number of poles will be:

$$Z_p = \frac{3000}{n} = 6,64 = 7$$

9. Recalculate the speed:

$$n = \frac{3000}{Z_p} = 428,6$$
 [rpm]

10. Recalculate the diameter:

$$u_1 = \omega \cdot \frac{D}{2} = \frac{2 \cdot \Pi \cdot n}{60} \cdot \frac{D}{2} \implies D = \frac{u_1 \cdot 60}{\Pi \cdot n} = 3,16 \text{ m}$$

11. Choose the number of buckets

z = 22



12. Diameter of the turbine housing (for vertical turbines)

 $D_{Housing} = D + K \cdot B = 9,4 m$



13. Calculate the height from the runner to the water level at the outlet (for vertical turbines)







Jostedal, Sogn og Fjordane



Jostedal, Sogn og Fjordane

Example Khimti Power Plant

- 1. The flow rate and head are given *H = 660 m $*Q = 2,15 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ *P = 12 MW
- 2. Choose reduced values $\underline{c}_{1u} = 1 \implies c_{1u} = 114 \text{ m/s}$ $\underline{u}_1 = 0,48 \implies u_1 = 54,6 \text{ m/s}$
- 3. Choose the number of nozzles z = 1



Example Khimti Power Plant

4. Calculate d_s from continuity for one nozzle

$$d_s = \sqrt{\frac{4 \cdot Q}{z \cdot \pi \cdot c_{1u}}} = 0.15 \ m$$

5. Choose the bucket width B = $3,2 \cdot d_s = 0, 5 \text{ m}$





6. Find the diameter by interpolation

7. Calculate the speed:

8. Choose the number of poles on the generator:

The speed of the runner is given by the generator and the net frequency:

$$n = \frac{3000}{Z_p} \quad [rpm]$$

where Z_p =number of poles on the generator

The number of poles will be:

$$Z_p = \frac{3000}{n} = 4,9 = 5$$

9. Recalculate the speed:

$$n = \frac{3000}{Z_p} = 600 \quad [rpm]$$

10. Recalculate the diameter:

$$u_1 = \omega \cdot \frac{D}{2} = \frac{2 \cdot \Pi \cdot n}{60} \cdot \frac{D}{2} \implies D = \frac{u_1 \cdot 60}{\Pi \cdot n} = 1,74 m$$

11. Choose the number of buckets

$$z = 22$$

